

Station: Berlin  
Reference: AB-36  
Source: Zigzag  
Sub-Source: Bolindt  
Evaluation: B-3  
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE FRAUDULENT DOCUMENT GROUP

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Report No: 346  
Report Date: 17 June 46  
Information Date: Current  
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1. Late in April 1946, source accidentally met a certain Alfred BOLINDT, SS-Oberscharfuehrer, (Luftschutzbunker Hotel, Berlin-Lankwitz), who has been living illegally in Berlin and is trying to make his living off the Black Market through sales in cameras, liquor, furs and watches.

2. Subsequent meetings with BOLINDT brought the information that prior to removing permanently to Sangerhausen (Russian Zone) he was trying to procure official papers for himself. He had, in fact, already made a certain contact who claimed to be a former German Army Colonel (who had obtained his own Wehrmacht discharge under the guise of being a Corporal), who was living in the Russian Sector of Berlin, made his living through Black Market sales in vegetables, and on the side, for a nominal fee, obtained false identification papers for people needing them. This Colonel boasted of having a net of confidential collaborators in the various sectors of Berlin who had access to various forms and papers.

3. Later, sub-source mentioned having been at the former Colonel's apartment when a young man had appeared and handed the Colonel an envelope of stamped forms, for which the Colonel gave the young man some of money. Subsource claimed to have learned that the young man was 25 years old, had been a concentration camp inmate for 12 years, had fought with the Americans against the Germans during the final phases of the war, and was presently an employee of the CIC in Berlin-Schoenefeld in the American Sector.

4. Toward the latter part of May subsource actually received his own paper from the colonel: a permit to stay, issued and properly stamped by the Berlin Magistrate, permitting him to stay in the Soviet Sector, for which subsource paid approximately RM 1000. Subsource claims he subsequently registered with the police, giving his address as Brunnenstrasse 158 (Russian Sector.)

5. Source thereafter, on 29 May, went to BOLINDT, claiming to be in great personal difficulties. Notionally, he maintained having successfully passed all previous political screening at the American supply unit where he was employed, but now he had been ordered to report with his identification papers at the Leichardtstrasse Labor Office for another going over, which was dangerous since he had registered in Berlin under a false name, for which he had no previous papers. BOLINDT promised to apply to the Colonel, whom he called Herr WAHL, for assistance.

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6. At the same time, however, BOLINDT altered his previous story a bit. He now claimed he did not know how long the CIC man had been in a concentration camp; instead of the envelope full of stamped forms, the CIC man had handed the Colonel simply a Czech document which, in the previous version, the Colonel had already had, and on the strength of which he had effected the release of someone from a Russian jail. Though the amended version now gave but limited importance to a possible false documents network, Source was instructed to pursue the matter further. Subsource, furthermore, still claimed that the Colonel had a whole network of people working for him, with tie-ins in all the sectors of Berlin.

7. Source's investigations disclosed that WAHL's mother, Frau KATTE (fruit dealer) lived at Berlin N 54, Linienstrasse 88 (Russian Sector), and that the 1943 Berlin Address Book included an Oberstleutnant Adelbert WAHL, Schmargendorf, Heiligendammer Strasse 13 (US Sector) and a H. WAHL (rag dealer) at Berlin N 4, Elsaesser Strasse 41, (Russian Sector).

8. To increase WAHL's interest in helping source with false documents, and more important, to lure him out of the Russian Sector, source suggested to BOLINDT that he might be able to get WAHL some Black Market materials through an American EM. On 3 June, source actually met WAHL, accompanied by the latter's fiancée, at the Bolidt. WAHL declared that he definitely could assist source in the matter of false documents. When source inquired what kind of papers were obtainable, WAHL declared they would have to discuss the matter privately, that he did not want to make promises in advance, but that his assistance could be relied upon. However, before entering on that topic he wanted to buy American provisions--in large quantities, up to the value of RM 15,000; these could be delivered to the home of his fiancée BBEUL, Berlin-Neukölln, Schudomastrasse 40/41 (US Sector), at the house in front, IV floor. He, WAHL, could be reached by telephoning Frau KATTE, 42 73 86. If there could be no immediate delivery, the foodstuffs, and then the false papers, would have to wait two or three weeks, during which time WAHL would be absent from Berlin.

SSU COMMENT: a. In this affair we know definitely we are dealing with black marketeers; the only documentary evidence we have of a false papers' network is source's statement that he personally saw BOLINDT's permit to stay. However, though BOLINDT might have been boasting of WAHL's abilities along this line, WAHL did offer his assistance to source.

b. In the documentary field, considerable interest centers on the still elusive German civilian employed by CIC, with presumably some access to CIC forms and stamps. However, in order to protect the security of our important agent, the handing over of the affair BOLINDT-WAHL to CIC at this stage seems ruled out.

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c. A further possibility is presented in WAHL's insistence on a major "let's make a deal" before he will begin to procure papers for source. If WAHL were to be lured to the Neukoelln address in the near future, the BOLINDTS and their friends would suspect source of being the informant. BOLINDT himself cannot be picked up without his wife and other relatives knowing source had told on him, and thus in turn putting WAHL on his guard. Though BOLINDT is definitely an arrestable but minor character, it is best for security reasons to take no action at this stage of the investigation.

d. When BOLINDT has left town, WAHL might then less conspicuously be apprehended on some pretext or other, at the flat of his fiancée.

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